

COUNTRY Eastern Germany REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Finsterwalde Airfield

DATE PREPARED 6 October 1952

PAGES 6 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]

REMARKS [REDACTED]

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1. Between 28 July and 16 August 1952, there was the usual air activity at Finsterwalde airfield. The planes retracted their landing gears immediately after the take-off. During the first days of August, [REDACTED] 25X1 a jet bomber landed 100 meters north of and parallel to the runway. (1) On 7 August, [REDACTED] under each of the previously reported aircraft there was a canvas-covered set about 1 meter high, 1 meter long and 60 cm wide, probably a starter carriage. (2)

2. Between 30 July and 16 August, the following rail shipments arrived at the field:

Date	Shipment	From
30 July	1 tank car with 184 hectoliters of naphtha	Velten
	1 tank car with 200 hectoliters of naphtha	"
	1 boxcar with full barrels of oil	"
1 August	1 boxcar with ammunition	Cottbus

On 2 August, the empty car was shunted to the Finsterwalde railroad station; a [REDACTED]

3 August 2 flatcars with logs Netzebrand

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Date	Shipment	From
7 August	3 flatcars with logs 2 tank cars with 300 and 270 hectoliters of naphtha 8 boxes each 2.5 x 1.7 meters	Metzebrand
8 August	16 tank cars with 190, 240, 200, 190, 180, 200, 200, 170, 195, 200, 260, 200, 150, 265, 200, 265 hectoliters of naphtha 1 tank car with 190 hecto- liters of oil 3 tank cars with 290, 200 and 300 hectoliters of naphtha 5 cars with coal	Riesa
9 August	1 car with potatoes 1 car with flour	Luehltrose
10 August	2 coaches 2 empty boxcars were shunted to the field; [redacted] the cars were to go to Aken/Elbe	
16 August	8 tank cars with ME type solvent in quantities of 240, 180, 300, 265, 240, 265, 200 and 265 hectoliters	

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3. Between 18 and 30 August, fuel shipments which were dispatched to Finsterwalde included 180 hectoliters [redacted] 1,416 hectoliters for [redacted] and 815 hectoliters for the Soviet Army. On 5 September, eight 75-mm AA guns and 14 trucks, [redacted] were dispatched to Schwerin. The train was occupied by 120 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets. (3)

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4. On 19, 20 and 21 August, only individual local flights by jet bombers were made at the field. Each flight lasted not more than 6 minutes. On 21 August, a type-30 jet bomber [redacted] was observed aloft three times. On 20 August, 12 jet bombers were counted at the field. Aircraft maintenance was in progress on two planes.

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5. Two 37-mm AA guns were observed west of the western hangar. Four trucks were parked south of the edge of the woods. The AA guns previously observed on the northern edge of the field were still emplaced there. (4)

6. [redacted] a Soviet soldier was hidden in a pear tree on the road toward the field. He apparently maintained radio contact with the MVD guard detail. As soon as a civilian was observed en route to the field, an MVD sentry arrived on bicycle or icon to control the person concerned. [redacted] when going toward the field.

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8. On 29 August, seven Pe-2s and 12 jet bombers of both types were counted at the field. There was local flying by aircraft which did not retract their landing gears, and there were formation flying by two type-27 planes in elements of two for 20 minutes. On 1 September, 7 Pe-2s and 11 bombers of both types were parked at the field. [redacted]

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9. The following air activity was observed at the field between 13 and 22 August:

13 August. At noon, 10 jet bombers including 5 old and 5 new ones were parked at the field. There was no flying.

15 August. At 11:40 a.m., there was local flying by a type-27 jet bomber. Flying continued after 12:30 p.m. Eight jet bombers were counted in front of the hangars.

18 August. Between 9:30 a.m., and about noon, there was local flying by three jet bombers.

19 August. Between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., local flying by jet bombers was observed from the town. At 11:15 a.m., a twin-engine plane with a tricycle landing gear took off. At 5 p.m., 9 jet bombers were counted at the field.

22 August. At 9 a.m., 10 jet bombers were observed at the field. The following landings were observed, and the following take-offs were heard:

<u>Take-off</u>	<u>Landing</u>	<u>Aircraft</u>
9:24 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	1 type-27 plane
9:33 " "	9:40 " "	1 type-30 plane
9:50 " "	9:56 " "	1 type-30 plane
9:52 " "	9:58 " "	1 type-27 plane
10:12 " "	10:18 " "	1 type-30 plane
10:22 " "	10:30 " "	1 type-30 plane
10:32 " "	10:40 " "	1 type-27 plane
10:37 " "	10:44 " "	1 type-30 plane
10:48 " "	10:55 " "	1 type-27 plane
10:50 " "	10:56 " "	1 type-30 plane
10:52 " "	11:00 " "	1 type-27 plane
11:05 a.m.	11:13 " "	1 type-27 plane

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Similar air activity lasted until about 4 p.m.

23 August. Between 9 and 11 a.m., local flights were made by jet bombers. Ten jet bombers were counted.

25 August. Ten jet bombers and 1 B-25 plane were still observed at the field. Between 1:30 and about 2 p.m., there was air activity in which a type-27 plane and a type-30 plane were involved. At 2:03 p.m., a B-25

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plane [ ] landed at the field. It appeared that the plane was newly painted. A type-27 plane [ ] landed at 2:15 p.m. and a DC-3 plane at 4:37 p.m., the latter plane taxied to the flight control station and, after a short time, proceeded to the edge of the woods where it could be observed no longer.

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26 August. Ten jet bombers in two groups of five were parked in front of the closed hangars. Short after 11:15 a.m., a jet bomber took off. Between 1:58 and 3:11 p.m., the following take-offs were heard and the following landings were observed:

Take-Off	Landing	Aircraft	
1:58 p.m.	2:05 p.m.	Plane [ ]	25X1
2:14 "		A few minutes later, a type-27 jet bomber flew over the field at an altitude of 1,000 meters, apparently for a cross-country flight	
	2:26 "	1 type-27 plane [ ]	25X1
2:30 "		Unidentified	
2:31 "		"	
2:36 "		"	
	2:37 "	1 type-30 plane [ ]	25X1
	2:38 "	1 type-27 plane [ ]	
2:43 "		Unidentified	
2:45 "		"	
2:48 "		"	
	2:44 "	1 type-30 plane [ ]	25X1
	2:52 "	1 " "	
	2:56 "	1 type-30 "	
	3:11 "	1 type-27 "	

After 3:11 p.m., air activity seemed to be discontinued for the rest of the day. A short time after flying was stopped, 10 jet bombers were observed in front of the hangars. The windows of the flight control station were lighted at nightfall and were still lighted until after 10 p.m.

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29 August. [ ] Finsterwalde that air activity was conducted at the field. Ten jet bombers were still counted at the field.

30 August. Between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., there was intensive air activity by jet bombers and B-25 planes. Flying was discontinued at 4:30 p.m. Fourteen jet bombers were observed at the field from the road to Schacksdorf. At 5:15 p.m., the number of planes was reduced to 11. In the meantime, no take-offs were made. [ ] the other three planes were parked. 25X1

31 August. About 5 p.m., 11 jet bombers were counted at the field.

1 September. Between 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., there was local flying by 3 jet bombers and 1 B-25 plane. At 5 p.m., 11 jet bombers were observed in front of the hangars.

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3 September. [ ] there was air activity by jet bombers and one B-25 between 10:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. Local flights and apparently cross-country flights were made. ILLEGIB

10.

[ ] the field and proceeded toward Finsterwalde about 5 p.m. on 27 August. On 28 August, the heavy AA guns were no longer observed on the northern edge of the field. At 8:45 a.m. on 29 August, five trucks with coupled

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37-mm AA guns moved from the town toward the airfield. [REDACTED]

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They were occupied by 50 to 60 men. (4)

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11. On 1 September, a locomotive towed 86 empty cars with open doors from the spur track. (5) Vehicles which entered and left the field [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Comments.

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- (1) It was previously observed that landings by jet bombers were made at the side of the runway. [REDACTED]

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- (2) [REDACTED] the sets under the aircraft were starter carriages is believed to be correct.

(3) [REDACTED]

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Units Lampazov and Parolov are reported for the first time. The incoming shipments of coal and potatoes may indicate that the consignees are the OATBs. Since the shipments were possibly dispatched by German agencies [REDACTED] of the consignees were not made known. It is also possible that the consignees are assigned to the AA unit at the field which possibly has supply units of its own. [REDACTED] observed in connection with AA guns are reported for the first time.

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- (4) [REDACTED] the 85-mm AA guns left the northern edge of the field on 27 August 1952. [REDACTED] a new unit of 37-mm AA guns arrived there on 29 August 1952.
- (5) The purpose of the 86 empty cars cannot be inferred from the vague information received.
- (6) Firsterwalde airfield is still occupied by two bombers regiments which are equipped with 10 to 12 type-27 planes, some PE-2s and 1 B-25 plane. [REDACTED] do not indicate the assignment to individual regiments. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] belonged to Soviet army units and which now seem to be assigned to Soviet Air Force units:

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